CHAPTER 196
VS BELDUM

YOUR POKÉMON CHANGE AS THEY GROW IN OTHER WORDS...
...THEY EVOLVE!!
ONE OF THEM ACCIDENTALLY TOUCHED THE STONE ON MY BELT...
...AND HAS STARTED EVOLVING AFTER RECEIVING THE ENERGY.
COCO, NANA, LOOK HERE!
WHIRR
CHEESE
THAT'S RIGHT! THAT'S RIGHT!!
YES! YES!
I MUST TAKE SOME PICTURES!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
TAKING RECORDS OF POKÉMON GROWTH! DON'T ALL TRAINERS DO IT?
ZAW
A CHANCE LIKE THIS COMES ONCE IN A LIFETIME. OF COURSE, I TAKE PHOTOS EVERYDAY TOO.
EVOLUTION IS ESPECIALLY RARE.
I'M CREATING MY OWN ALBUM! DO YOU WANNA SEE?
NOW'S NOT THE TIME!!
DAAN
ZAW
!!
ZAW ZAW

WOAH!
COCO, YOU'VE GROWN CUTER. !!
NANA, YOU'RE EVEN MORE COOL NOW!!

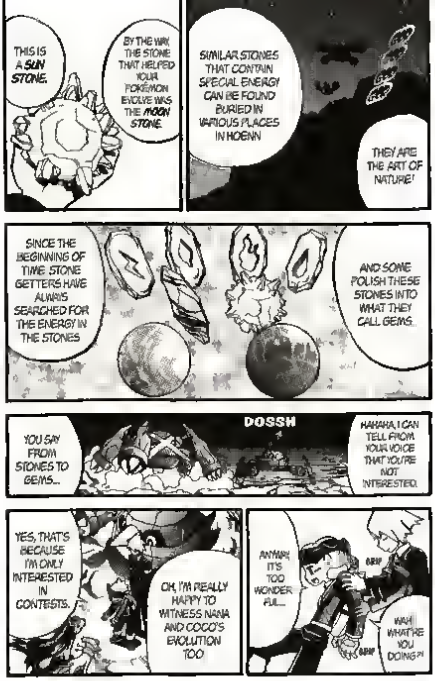
YOU SAID YOU'RE ..!
STEVEN
STEVEN, YOU MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT THE STONE
YOU SAID COCO STARTED EVOLVING AFTER TOUCHING THE STONE AT YOUR WAIST
YES. SOME POKEMON WILL EVOLVE AFTER RECEIVING ENERGY FROM SPECIAL STONES.
AND YOUR POKEMON WAS ONE OF THEM.
MY JOB IS TO SEARCH AND COLLECT SUCH STONES!
STONE GETTER!
I SEE. I SEE! I MUST THANK YOU FOR HELPING COCO GROW CUTER!!
I'M A STONE GETTER !!
YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON !
SAY ANYTHING AND I'LL DO IT!
IN THAT CASE, COME WITH ME!!
DOTT DOT
LURE THAT HERO OF MAMLE IN THIS DIRECTION!!
DA
AH, AH..
IT'S A DEAD END. !!
OKAY.
MY POKEMON ARE ALREADY WAITING HERE!!
MY POKEMON CAN DETECT THE PRESENCE OF THE SPECIAL STONES, AND THEY'VE BEEN LYING...
SNAP
...IN AMBUSH
POP

GO BELDUM!!
BLOOOOOOOOOSH
IRON HEAD!!
GAWWN
KKK
KK
KK
GAWK
GAWK...KKK
THEY'RE TWO BIG!
THE STEEL JAWS!!
DON'T WORRY!
THE ENEMY'S MADE OF STEEL...

GAWK
...BUT MY POKÉMON ARE ALSO...
...MADE OF STEEL!!
NOW'S THE TIME! I NEED YOUR HELP!!
STOP THE MAMILE FROM ESCAPING WITH YOUR TWO FAST POKÉMON!
NO PROBLEM!
COCOH NANA!
ZAW
GYOOOOOOOOO
SNAP

COCO
NANA
TAT TAT TAT
STEVEN
MEOWG
MEW-GROSS!
GRRR

MAGNETIC FORCE INSTEAD OF BLOOD, FLOWS WITHIN THEM.
AND THESE FORCES OPPOSE THAT OF THE GROUND, THUS KEEPING THEM AFLOAT.
OH!
SHINE
KACH
JAAM
KINK
THAT'S A GOOD STONE...
...STONE GETTER!


THIS IS A SUN STONE.
BY THE WAY, THE STONE THAT HELPED YOUR POKÉMON EVOLVE WAS THE MOON STONE.
SIMILAR STONES THAT CONTAIN SPECIAL ENERGY CAN BE FOUND BURIED IN VARIOUS PLACES IN HOENN
THEY ARE THE ART OF NATURE!
SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, STONE GETTERS HAVE ALWAYS SEARCHED FOR THE ENERGY IN THE STONES
AND SOME POLISH THESE STONES INTO WHAT THEY CALL GEMS.
YOU SAY FROM STONES TO GEMS...
DOSSH
HAHAHA, I CAN TELL FROM YOUR VOICE THAT YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED.
YES, THAT'S BECAUSE I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN CONTESTS.
OH, I'M REALLY HAPPY TO WITNESS NANA AND COCO'S EVOLUTION TOO
ANYWAY, IT'S TOO WONDERFUL...
ARM
ARM
WAH! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!

HM... YOU'RE BETTER THAN I THOUGHT
WH- WHAT ?
ACTUALLY, I'M LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE BESIDES STONES
A PARTNER.
DWAA
I NEED A PARTNER TO FIGHT THE TWO EVIL FORCES THAT ARE INVADING HOENN!!
TELL ME YOUR NAME AND AGE
RU- RUBY, II YEARS OLD..
RUBY, TOO BAD YOU'RE ONLY 11... IF YOU WERE ABOVE 16, YOU COULD BECOME A SCOUT...
TAT
EH?! BUT I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT BATTLING !!

...I NOTICED.
WE SHALL MEET AGAIN...
...RUBY.
DOOSH
GOOOOOW

TWO FORCES INVADING HOENN...
WHAT DID HE MEAN?
OH WELL...
LET'S CONTINUE OUR JOURNEY!